

Application of: Kajander et al

Art Unit: 1771

Serial No. 09/923,932

Case Docket No. 7144

Filed: August 7, 2001

Examiner: Terrel Morris

For: Method of Making Foam Coated Mat Online and Coated
Mat Product

Commissioner of the Patents & Trademarks
Washington, D. C. 20231

Dear Sir:

DECLARATION UNDER 37 CFR 1.132

I am a co-inventor of the inventions disclosed in United States Patent Application S. N. 09/923,932 filed on August 7, 2001 and conducted numerous experimental runs using the method and parameters disclosed in this application to make coated mats by coating a wet, nonwoven fibrous web with a froth or foam followed by drying and heating to cure the polymers in the binder and/or coating to produce coated mats. I am submitting Exhibits 1-4 that are as follows:

Exhibit 1 - This is a sample of mat made according to the invention described in the above identified application using a foam having a blow ratio of 24. Based on numerous experimental runs of different parameters within the scope of claims in this application, this mat sample of Exhibit 1 has the same or very similar appearance as the mat samples produced in these other numerous runs, but unfortunately the other mat samples were discarded some time ago. The mat of Exhibit 1 has a coating on one surface, the top surface as made.

Exhibit 2 - This is a sample of commercial AGF (all glass facer) mat made in accordance with the invention disclosed in United States Pat. No. 4,681,798,

Gill et al. This mat has a much tighter structure and lower air permeability than the mat of Exhibit 1. The mat of Exhibit 2 does not have a coating, of the type on the yellow surface of Exhibit 1.

Exhibit 3 - This is a sample of a commercial foam roofing insulation board having an AGF mat on each of its top and bottom surface as made. This board was made by foaming a foam precursor between two AGF (Exhibit 2) mats while the mats were constrained to the desired thickness, followed by heating to cure the expanded foam to make insulation board like the product described in the Gill et al patent at col. 1, line 20.

Exhibit 4 - This is a sample of a fiber glass nonwoven mat coated with an elastomer and is typical of the conventional intermediate coated product used in the manufacturing of a floor covering discussed in the Gill et al patent in col. 1, lines 19-20. As you can readily see, this type of coated mat has a much different appearance and a substantially lower air permeability than the mats of the present invention.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Signed: _____
Richard Emil Kajander
331 N. Dulton Drive
Toledo, OH 43615 USA

Richard Kajander

DATE: _____

3/18/03